

## ***Perseverance (Final Essay)***

“Albert Einstein is so smart!” This is the response from people all around the world when they hear of the famous scientist’s name. Instead of recognizing the many praises that were sung to him then, Albert Einstein said, “It is not that I’m so smart, it’s just that I stay with problems longer.” Therefore, he shares the same belief as me – perseverance.

To achieve success is possible yet difficult. It is similar to climbing a mountain where perseverance is one of the fundamentals. Thus, success in all aspects of reality requires perseverance. I have also had my own fair share of tasting the fruit of success before, and the reason for this accomplishment was perseverance.

I went through the biggest success of my life so far when I was 12 years old, during my Primary School Leaving Examination. I had little confidence in entering a high school which I would love, for I was not the cream of the crop. Exasperated, I often thought about the possibilities of myself scoring badly in the examination.

Yet, I decided to do my best to prove myself wrong. That I could do well, I could enter my dream school, and I would give pride to my family. Despite my determination, there were a few letdowns. In my mid-year examination, I scored 75 for my Mathematics, which was equivalent to someone telling me, “You are

never entering a top school!" I was distraught! Then, I had already lost all hope in enrolling in an elite school like Nanyang Girls' High School.

In addition, I also had other commitments to fulfill, such as my Grade 3 Piano Theory Examination and my co-curricular activity, Pottery Club. It was a busy and stressful year.

Nevertheless, I persuaded myself to work hard by managing my time wisely and thinking positive. My family also knew that I was having a rough time and told me to work harder and persevere. Subsequently, they gave me a quote which greatly inspired me, "It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer," said by the world-renowned scientist, Albert Einstein.

Einstein was a Nobel Prize winner and had faced many difficulties throughout his life. He was expelled from school before and rejected by the established Zurich Polytechnic School. These happenings were a blow to him. However, his perseverance drove him to strive for further excellence, and he became the scientist that everyone knows of. His value, perseverance, encouraged me to use it and face my PSLE.

It was only a couple of months later till I took the examination and received my results. Peering at the score on my result slip, I realized that I possessed the necessary qualifications to enter Nanyang Girls' High School! In retrospect, I

thought about the factors which resulted in my success. At this point, I knew that perseverance was the key.

Perseverance has no doubt made me stronger. It has paved success for me and I have made it my "religion" - believing in it. Now, what may happen in the future? I do not know. Conversely, I will strive to instill perseverance in everything I do.

Let me be the epitome of perseverance! Perhaps, in my future accomplishments, if anyone was to praise or congratulate me, I will tell them confidently what Albert Einstein had said, "It is not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer."

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